

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 SAA-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 COME-00 HA-05 /095 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN:RGH
APPROVED BY NEA/P:FSHERMAN
-----034203 061747Z /44

Z 061728Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM FLASH
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 170398

JERUSALEM FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON BEIRUT FIGHTING

1. TODAY THE WHITE HOUSE POSTED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
FROM THE PRESIDENT ON LEBANON FOR THE PRESS:

QUOTE I WISH TODAY TO EXPRESS MY DEEP CONCERN AT
THE CONTINUED BLOODSHED THAT HAS ACCOMPANIED THE FIGHTING
IN BEIRUT OVER RECENT DAYS. DESPITE APPEALS BY SECRETARY
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GENERAL WALDHEIM AND HIS HOLINESS THE POPE -- TO WHICH
THE UNITED STATES HAS ADDED ITS VOICE -- AND NUMEROUS
EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A CEASEFIRE, THE CLASHES UNFORTUNATELY
CONTINUE WITH HEAVY CASUALTIES AMONG THE INNOCENT
CIVILIAN POPULATION.

THE FIGHTING IN BEIRUT IS IN NO ONE'S INTEREST. IT ADDS

TO THE HATRED AND SUFFERING ACCUMULATED OVER SEVERAL YEARS OF TRAGEDY IN LEBANON AND DELAYS THE EFFORTS OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS, TO REBUILD NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ENSURE SECURITY FOR ALL LEBANESE.

I THEREFORE JOIN WITH THOSE WORLD LEADERS CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE FIGHTING AND URGE ALL PARTIES

WITH INFLUENCE OVER THE SITUATION TO SPARE NO EFFORT TO SET LEBANON ONCE MORE ON THE ROAD TO PEACE AND PROGRESS.

END QUOTE.

2. IN ADDITION, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER III MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS AT THE OPENING OF THE NOON BRIEFING ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT THE CONTINUED FIGHTING IN LEBANON:

QUOTE THIS FIGHTING IN BEIRUT IS IN NO ONE'S INTEREST. IT ADDS TO THE HATRED AND SUFFERING ACCUMULATED OVER SEVERAL YEARS OF TRAGEDY IN LEBANON AND DELAYS EFFORTS OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS, TO REBUILD NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ENSURE SECURITY FOR ALL LEBANESE. WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED, URGING THEM TO EXERCISE UNCLASSIFIED

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MAXIMUM RESTRAINT SO AS TO END THE FIGHTING AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. BEYOND THAT STATEMENT, I EXPECT TO HAVE A FURTHER STATEMENT LATER THIS AFTERNOON -- THREE OR FOUR HOURS FROM NOW, I CAN'T BE SURE WHEN YOU WILL BE INFORMED -- ON THE LEBANESE SITUATION. END QUOTE

3. IN SUBSEQUENT ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS AT THE BRIEFING, THE SPOKESMAN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) (IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ISRAELI OVER-FLIGHTS OF BEIRUT AND BEN ELISSAR'S STATEMENT AGAINST "ANNIHILATION" OF THE CHRISTIANS):

--I HAVE SAID WE ARE URGING MAXIMUM RESTRAINT ON ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. ANYTHING WHICH WOULD HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF EXPANDING CONFLICT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL.

(B) (IN ANSWER TO REPORTS OF PRESIDENT SARKIS' IMPENDING RESIGNATION):

--WHAT DECISION PRESIDENT SARKIS TAKES IS A MATTER FOR HIM AND HIS GOVERNMENT, AND I HAVE NO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

ON THE REPORTS.

--WE BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT ALL EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO
SUPPORT THE AUTHORITY OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON.
WE UNDERSTAND WELL THE STRAIN THAT PRESIDENT SARKIS IS
UNDER IN CARRYING OUT HIS DUTIES IN THIS EXTREMELY DANGER-
OUR SITUATION.

--WE HOPE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL CONSIDER WHAT STEPS
CAN BEST BE TAKEN TO END THE FIGHTING AND REBUILD THE
NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN LEBANON, WHICH IN THE LAST
ANALYSIS IS THE ONLY SURE WAY OF ASSURING THE PEACE AND
SECURITY OF THE LEBANESE PEOPLE.

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-----035999 062035Z /70
O 062026Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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FOL RPT STATE 170398 ACTION JERUSALEM BEIRUT CAIRO JIDDA
AMMAN LONDON DAMASCUS USUN NEW YORK 6 JUL 78 QUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS RELEASES, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780277-0859
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780789/aaaacxhe.tel
Line Count: 265
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2098006
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON BEIRUT FIGHTING
TAGS: SOPN, MOPS, LE
To: JERUSALEM BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a480e779-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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